

BILL NO. 52-2010

AN ORDINANCE

**AMENDING CHAPTER 5 – CODE ENFORCMENT OF THE CITY OF READING
CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADDING A PART 15 TO CREATE A RE-
INTRODUCTION OF POWER INSPECTION PROGRAM**

THE CITY OF READING HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Chapter 5 – Code Enforcement of the City of Reading Codified Ordinances is hereby amended to add a Part 15 per Exhibit A as attached hereto.

SECTION 2. The Electrical Inspector in conjunction with the Building Code Official is hereby authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to implement and supplement the provisions of this Ordinance. The rules and regulations available for inspection during regular business hours.

SECTION 3: All ordinances, regulations and policies of the City of Reading in direct contrast to this Ordinance, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4: All relevant ordinances, regulations and policies of the City of Reading, Pennsylvania not amended per the attached shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5: If any section, subsection, sentence or clause of this ordinance is held, for any reason, to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance.

SECTION 6: This Ordinance shall become effective in ten (10) days, in accordance with Charter Section 219.

Enacted Aug 9, 2010

Council President

Attest:

City Clerk

Submitted to Mayor:

Date: 8/10/10

I, LINDA A. KELLEHER, City Clerk of the City of Reading, Pa., do hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original Ordinance passed by the Council of the City of Reading, on the 9 day of Aug, A. D. 2010. Witness my hand and seal of the said City this 10 day of Aug, P. A. D. 2010.

CITY CLERK

Received by the Mayor's Office:

Date: 8/10/10

Approved by Mayor:

Date: 8/10/10

Vetoed by Mayor:

Date:

EXHIBIT A

§15-101 Purpose – Re-introduction of power to properties for which electricity has been turned off or de-energized for a period off one (1) year or greater creates a risk. To ensure it is safe to re-introduce or restore power to such structures or units a Re-Introduction of Power Inspection is required and the appropriate documentation submitted to the electricity supplier to permit restoration of power to the property. Re-introduction of power does not require a permit.

§15-102 – Definitions The following words, terms and phrases when used in this Part shall be defined as follows, unless context clearly indicates otherwise:

Building Code Official – City of Reading employee of the Building / Trades Division of the Community Development Department charged with overseeing said Division and so registered with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

Cut – In Card – Documentation issued by the Electrical Inspector to the Electrical Supplier / Public Utility Company authorizing energizing of electrical services at the property.

De-energize –Discontinuing, shutting off, or ceasing the utility supply of electricity to a property by the electrical utility for reasons including but not limited to: vacancy, illegal tampering, non payment, fire or other structural damage.

Electric Company / Electrical Supplier / Public Utility – Any person or corporations now or hereafter owning or operating in this Commonwealth equipment or facilities for producing, generating, transmitting, distributing or furnishing electricity, for the production of light, heat, or power to or for the public for compensation.

Electrical Inspector - City of Reading employee hired to perform the duties of Electrical Inspector in accordance with the City of Reading Codified Ordinances.

One Year – 365 calendar days

Overcurrent Device – A device capable of providing protection for service, feeder, branch circuits and equipment over the full range of overcurrents between its rated current and its interrupting rating, including but not limited to fuses, circuit breakers or combinations thereof.

Property – Any property, structure or building in the City of Reading including and sub category thereof including but not limited to room, floor, apartment or condominium. Excluding new construction for which a permit and inspection is required under the permit.

Re-introduction of Power – The re-establishing or re-energizing of a property with electrical power.

Re-Introduction of Power Inspection – An inspection performed by the Electrical Inspector of the City of Reading subsequent to de-energization of a property for a period of one year or longer and prior to re-establishing of electricity to a property to ensure the connections and electric panel are safe for re-energization of power to the property.

§15-103 Administration / Enforcement – The administration and enforcement of this Part shall be within the authority of the Electrical Inspector of the City of Reading or in the absence of the Electrical Inspector person designated by the Building Code Official.

§15-104 Inspection – The inspection would be to ensure it is safe to restore power / re – energize a property. The inspection would inspect the meter based and panel board and to ensure there are no electrical hazards.

§15-105 Inspection Procedure – Upon receipt of a request from a property owner or the Electrical Supplier / Public Utility Company, the Electrical Inspector will schedule a Re-Introduction of Power Inspection at the property to be conducted within two (2) working days of receipt of request via completed application and payment of requisite fee.

§15-105-5 A. Passage of Inspection - Upon passage of the inspection, the Electrical Inspector posts the appropriate label at the service location and submits the requisite documentation, including but not limited to a Cut-In Card to the Electrical Supplier / Public Utility. All breakers / overcurrent devices would be placed in the off position.

§15-105-5 B. Failure of Inspection – If an inspection failures, no sticker or label would be issued, the contact on the application would be notified of the failure and the Electrical Supplier / Public Utility would be notified of the failure and no Cut-In-Card would be issued thereto. The applicant would be notified that a licensed contractor would be required to make any requisite fixes / repairs in accordance with obtaining of the necessary permits and the applicable City of Reading Codified Ordinances and Statutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. After the repairs have been made, the contractor shall contact the City of Reading Electrical Inspector to perform an inspection. If the inspection is passed, then procedures outlined in §5-105A. shall be followed.

§15-106 Required Inspection – an inspection of a property shall be performed by the Electrical Inspector of the City prior to re-introduction of electric power to a property where the electric power has been de-energized for a period of one year or more.

§15-107 Owner / Tenant / Responsible Party Responsibility – Upon passage of the inspection required hereby and reintroduction of power / re-energization of the property by the Electrical Supplier / Public Utility, it shall be the responsibility of the owner, tenant

and/or responsible party to turn the breakers / overcurrent devices to the on position providing power throughout the property.

§15-108 Fee – The Electrical Inspector shall charge a fee for performance of the Re-Introduction of Power inspection as established and amended as necessary by Ordinance by City Council under the City of Reading Fee Scheduled.

§15-109 Regulations – The Electrical Inspector in conjunction with the Building Code Official is hereby authorized to promulgate rules and regulations and prepare an application to implement and supplement the provisions of this Ordinance.